

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7664

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2835

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: IMPACT OF YUN PIL YONG AFFAIR

REF: SEOUL 2661

BEGIN SUMMARY. PUBLIC REACTION TO YUN PIL YONG COURT-MARTIAL IS HEAVILY FREIGHTED WITH CYNICISM, BUT WE SEE NO SIGN THAT NATIONAL SECURITY OR PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF THE PARK REGIME HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED. YI HU RAK IS LYING LOW AND THERE IS SPECULATION ABOUT HIS FUTURE. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME DISLOCATIONS IN THE UPPER REACHES OF THE POWER STRUCTURE AND IN THE RHYTHM OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AT THOSE LEVELS, BUT WE BELIEVE THESE WILL BE TEMPORARY. END SUMMARY.

1. PUBLIC REACTION TO YUN PIL YONG COURT- MARTIAL IS HEAVILY FREIGHTED WITH CYNICISM AMONG CONCERNED INTELLIGENTSIA BUT DOES NOT APPEAR EITHER WITH THEM OR OTHERS TO HAVE INDUCED ANY WIDESPREAD NERVOUSNES OR TO HAVE NOTABLY AFFECT PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF PRESIDENT PARK AND HIS REGIME. CYNICISM RUNS IN FIRST INSTANCE TO OBSERVATION
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THAT YUN AND ACCOMPLICES WERE NO MORE GUILTY OF CRIMES FOR WHICH CONVICTED THAN MANY OTHERS AND THEN TO QUESTIONS (A) WHAT WAS REAL, UNREVEALED REASON FOR HIS TRIAL AND HEAVY SENTENCE AND (B) WILL DOWNFALL OF OTHERS AT TOP LEVELS, E. G., ROK/ CIA DIRECTOR YI HU RAK, SOON FOLLOW.

2. REGARDING LATTER, IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE IN SEOUL THAT YI HU RAK IS LYING LOW, BUT WHETHER YI' S CURRENT LOW PROFILE IS HARBINGER OF T OPENING IN SICKERT' S SCHEDULE, UNFORTUNATELY, IS AT 3:00 P. M. MAY 28, AND APPOINTMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE CONFIRMED LATER WITH SICKERT WHEN HE RETURNS FROM TRIP. DUE TO ILLNESS AND SCHEDULING PROBLEMS, OTHER RANKING DGB OFFICIALS NOT AVAILABLE AT SUITABLE TIMES, AND ALTERNATIVE TO MEETING SICKERT WOULD BE WORKING- LEVEL OFFICIALS.

B. MONDAY EVENING CONCERT BY SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. ATTENDANCE WOULD BE AT PARTICIPANTS' EXPENSE (3-5 DOLLARS EACH) AND WE WOULD NEED TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HOW MANY TICKETS WOULD BE NEEDED.

C. WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 30 TOUR OF EAST BERLIN BY US ARMY BUS. BUS TOUR REQUIRES ABOUT THREE HOURS AND IS ONLY PRACTICAL WAY TO ENABLE LARGE GROUP, SOME WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS, TO SEE EAST BERLIN.

D. WEDNESDAY LUNCH GIVEN BY BERLIN SENATE. HEAD OF SENATE CHANCELLERY HAS EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HOST LUNCHEON AT RATHAUS SCHOENEBERG, THE MAIN CITY HALL. WE BELIEVE THIS COULD LOGICALLY FOLLOW EAST BERLIN TOUR, WITH MINIMUM LOSS OF TIME IN TRANSPORTATION.

E. WEDNESDAY EVENING RECEPTION GIVEN BY MINISTER KLEIN.

F. US COMMAND BRIEFING ON BERLIN IS ALSO AVAILABLE IF DESIRED. BRIEFING, WHICH TAKES 30-45 MINUTES, SHOULD OCCUR EARLY IN SCHEDULE.

4. DEPT REQUESTED TO SUPPLY LIST OF WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR TRAVEL PLANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE REGARDING ACCOMMODATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIONS DESIRED FOR IRVING BROWN.

5. ALL PARTICIPANTS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT MOST US FACILITIES WILL BE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 28, AND MANY

GERMAN FACILITIES WILL BE CLOSED ASCENSION DAY, MAY 31,
WHICH IS A GERMAN LEGAL HOLIDAY. KLEIN

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